



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

ANNE LOPEZ
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL LOPEZ FIGHTS BACK AGAINST DECISION TO BLOCK
MEDICATION ABORTION ACCESS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HONOLULU, HI – Attorney General Lopez today joined a multistate coalition to challenge the decision issued by a district court judge in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas that could restrict medication abortion access nationwide.

The amicus brief, filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, urges the court to stay the district court's ruling, which, if allowed to take effect, could halt the more than two-decades-old U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of the medication abortion drug, mifepristone.

Attorney General Lopez and the coalition of 24 attorneys general warn that revoking federal approval for mifepristone will drastically reduce access to safe abortion care and miscarriage management for millions of people across the country, endangering lives and trampling states' authority to protect and promote access to abortion.

"Mifepristone has been proven to be safe and effective," says Attorney General Anne Lopez. "The Texas district court's decision is an egregious attack on abortion access, and jeopardizes the health, safety, and well-being of millions of people across the country. Despite this decision, abortion remains legal and accessible in Hawai'i, and I will continue to fight to maintain access to essential reproductive health care."

This ruling comes in a challenge brought by anti-abortion groups seeking to revoke the FDA's approval of mifepristone. On April 7, Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, ordered the FDA to stay its approval of mifepristone, which happened in 2000. The court's order does not take effect

immediately, as the district court put its ruling on hold for seven days to give the federal government and the drug manufacturer an opportunity to appeal.

Attorney General Lopez and the coalition are urging the appeals court to continue to stay the lower court's unprecedented and legally erroneous decision pending the appeal, given the decades of clinical research and studies that have confirmed mifepristone's safety and the critical role medication abortion plays in reproductive health care, particularly in low-income, underserved, and rural communities.

The coalition notes that if the lower court decision takes effect, it could drastically curtail abortion access for millions of Americans. Mifepristone has been particularly critical in providing access to safe abortion care in low-income, underserved, and rural communities. According to current estimates, medication abortion accounts for more than half, approximately 54 percent, of all abortions performed in the United States. Obstructing access to mifepristone would lead demand for procedural abortions to significantly increase, resulting in later and more risky procedures, and more complicated and costly logistics for many patients, especially those where procedural abortion is unavailable. Moreover, lack of access to safe abortion care leads to worsened health outcomes and higher mortality, especially for Black women.

Joining Attorney General Lopez in filing today's amicus brief are the attorneys general of Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia.

A copy of the amicus brief filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in *Alliance for Hippocratic Freedom v. U.S. Food & Drug Administration* can be found [here](#).

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Media Contact:

Dave Day

Special Assistant to the Attorney General

(808) 586-1284

Email: ATG.PIO@hawaii.gov

Web: <http://ag.hawaii.gov>